THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRISANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Companies from India and China along with other countries sometimes bid for particular exploration blocks or fields abroad.Technical feasibility of transportation of energy, crude oil and natural gas, from Russia and Central Asia through China has not been established so far.

(c) to (e) ONGC-Videsh Ltd. (OVL), a 100% subsidiary of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC), is active in securing equity oil abroad in various countries, including the countries comprising Confederation of Independent States like Russia, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. In 2001, OVL obtained 20% stake in Sakhalin-I project of Russia with an estimated investment of about Rs. 8,500 crores.

Entry of Gail in LPG retailing

2190. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gas Authority of India Limited plan to move into the retail marketing of LPG;

(b) whether it would adversely affect the investment that the Indian Oil Corpdration has made in developing its own marketing network based on supplies from GAIL pipelines;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) GAIL has sought the permission from the Government to sell LPG directly to bulk customers.

(b) to (d) Government have not taken any final view on the proposal.

Allocation of Natural Gas to Andhra Pradesh

2191. SHRI NANDIYELLAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh has recommended to the Central